

## COMMENDATION FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

### ***Royal Australian Navy***

#### **Commodore Roger Livingstone BOYCE RAN, ACT**

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as Deputy Commander Joint Task Force 633 on Operation SLIPPER in the Middle East Area of Operations from April to October 2010.

Commodore Boyce displayed exceptional dedication, leadership, foresight, initiative and productivity during a period of intense combat operations and organisational change in the Middle East Area of Operations. He worked tirelessly to improve procedures, enhance efficiency and support his commander and the commanders of subordinate task groups, and he excelled in the management of critical issues including combat fatalities. On several occasions he commanded Joint Task Force 633 during very demanding periods of activity, leading with distinction, compassion and energy.

#### **Rear Admiral David Lance JOHNSTON RAN, ACT**

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as Deputy Commander Joint Task Force 633 on Operations SLIPPER and KRUGER from October 2010 to March 2011.

An exceptional officer, Rear Admiral Johnston has performed his duties with distinction to ensure robust and responsive support to units deployed to the Middle East Area of Operations. His inspired leadership, deep commitment to the deployed sailors, soldiers, airmen and airwomen, and his exemplary performance have been pivotal to the success of Headquarters Joint Task Force 633 and, through it, Australia's operations in the Middle East. His achievements are in keeping with the finest traditions of the Royal Australian Navy and the Australian Defence Force.

### ***Australian Army***

#### **Major A,**

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations.

Details not available at the request of the Department of Defence.

#### **Trooper A,**

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations and in action.

Details not available at the request of the Department of Defence.

#### **Sergeant A,**

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations and in action.

Details not available at the request of the Department of Defence.

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### **Captain C,**

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations and in action.

Details not available at the request of the Department of Defence.

### **Sergeant K,**

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations and in action.

Details not available at the request of the Department of Defence.

### **Sergeant M,**

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations and in action.

Details not available at the request of the Department of Defence.

### **Corporal P,**

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations.

Details not available at the request of the Department of Defence.

### **Brigadier Simon ROACH AM, Qld**

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as Assistant Commander Joint Task Force 633 on Operation SLIPPER in the Middle East Area of Operations from April 2010 to February 2011.

Brigadier Roach made a vital contribution to the command and control arrangements for Australian forces in Afghanistan through relentless devotion to duty and relationship building at the strategic, operational and whole-of-government levels. His close associations with commanders and senior staff officers in key organisations directly contributed to the advancement of Australia's campaign. His performance as the Australian Detainee Manager for Afghanistan was exemplary, developing positive relationships with Coalition elements and the International Committee of the Red Cross in this strategically sensitive area.

### **Private Brenden Leigh ROBINS, NT**

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations and in action while a combat medic with the 2nd Mentoring Task Force on Operation SLIPPER in Chora Baluchi Valley, Afghanistan from October 2010 to February 2011.

Throughout numerous patrol tasks, Private Robins demonstrated great courage, providing advanced medical treatment under fire to members of his patrol and his Afghan National Army partners. He provided life-saving treatment to many local nationals who presented to the patrol base. Private Robins demonstrated exceptional devotion to duty, compassion and ability in each case, and maintained an excellent regimental aid post throughout the deployment.

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### **Colonel Nicholas David ROWNTREE, NSW**

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as Senior Military Adviser to the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq on Operation RIVERBANK.

Colonel Rowntree has demonstrated exemplary leadership in performing his duties as the Senior Military Adviser to the Special Representative of the Secretary General for the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq. His tireless efforts and dedication set the conditions for the successful transition of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq to security self reliance in a complex and hazardous environment.

### **Sergeant S,**

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations and in action.

Details not available at the request of the Department of Defence.

### **Major Richard Shannon SIMSON, Vic**

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as Staff Officer Grade Two – Afghan National Army Development, Headquarters Regional Command (South) on Operation SLIPPER in Afghanistan from April to November 2010.

Major Simson is an exceptional officer who displayed tireless commitment to the generation and development of Afghan National Army forces, and was instrumental in the construction of Forward Operating Bases Howz-E-Medad, Jelawur and Azizullah. Through his active engagement, he greatly influenced the fielding of the 3rd Brigade, 205th Afghan National Army Corps; and the preparation of Combined Team GAD ZAWAK. Major Simson demonstrated tireless devotion to duty during a period of extraordinary operational tempo and achieved outstanding results.

### **Lieutenant Colonel Richard Anthony VAGG, NSW**

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as the Commanding Officer, Artillery Training Team Kabul on Operation SLIPPER in Afghanistan from April to November 2010.

Lieutenant Colonel Vagg is an outstanding officer whose command and leadership of the Artillery Training Team Kabul have been exemplary. Setting the Coalition standard for planning and implementation of training establishments, he led his small cohesive team with dedication and determination to develop the School of Artillery as a comprehensive, sustainable, first-class training institution for the Afghan National Army. His dedication and contribution will have an enduring beneficial effect on the conduct of operations.

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### *Royal Australian Air Force*

#### **Wing Commander Martin John SMITH, Qld**

For distinguished performance of duty in warlike operations as the inaugural Commanding Officer, Multi-National Base Command Tarin Kowt, on Operation SLIPPER in Afghanistan from June 2010 to January 2011.

Wing Commander Smith's command, leadership and management skills are of the highest order. In a short period and despite severe resource constraints, he established robust force protection at Multi-National Base Tarin Kowt and highly effective base support to Coalition operations in Uruzgan. His supervision of the Tarin Kowt Runway Improvement Project resulted in a significant increase in operational capacity. He controlled forces from a wide range of troop-contributing nations and mentored the Afghan National Army's 205 Corps Garrison Support Unit with sensitivity and effectiveness.